

## Abstract

A protective layer (7) which is relatively permeable for  $\text{CO}_2$  and relatively impermeable for  $\text{SO}_2$  is designed so as to yield a reduced penetration time for  $\text{CO}_2$  molecules.

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The protective layer (7) is composed of a gas-permeable carrier (10) made of a material which is resistant to sulfuric acid media such as  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_3$ , has a surface (8) that can be exposed to a gas and is provided with an oxidizing agent whose oxidation potential is sufficient to oxidize  $\text{SO}_2$ .

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(Figure 1)

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